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Larry Russell

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EXAMINER

BLACK, LINH

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/028,941	Applicant(s) RUSSELL, LARRY	
	Examiner LINH BLACK	Art Unit 2163	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 May 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 1-22 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 12, and 18 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3, 12-13, and 18-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shelton et al. (US 6847940), in view of Erturk et al. (US 6135776).

As per independent claims 1, 12, 18, Shelton et al. teach healthcare industry trade shows – the title; exhibitors, their products and services – col. 3, lines 27-39; col. 5, lines 22-33; figs. 1a-1c: information regarding a specific product or service, convention floor with booths, each booth with an icon of the vendor's name and logo... (thus, vendor/exhibitor's information collected and displayed to the show's attendees)

In figure 1, Applicants teach distribute database at tradeshow to attendees (item 30) via Internet or intranet web page (item 36), via computer kiosk (item 34), via PDA (item 38), via CD (item 32). However, before the database can be

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distributed to tradeshow attendees for example, via web pages, the collected information is compiled into searchable electronic database. As shown above, Shelton et al. teach distribute exhibitor's information to tradeshow attendees via web pages: figs. 1a-1c; col. 3, lines 27-39; col. 5, lines 22-33. Thus, the exhibitors/vendors' collected information is inherently compiled into a database before it can be distributed or searched by tradeshow attendees. Shelton et al. do not teach wherein the database is a searchable database. Erturk et al. further teaches the database is a searchable database viewable via a computer program and compact disks are used to store databases of information – col. 8, lines 8-25. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shelton et al.'s teaching with Erturk et al.'s teaching in order to allow the distribution of tradeshow information on CD-ROMs to allow users with different computer systems to access to tradeshow's information.

As per claim 2, Shelton et al. do not teach wherein the database is a searchable database viewable via a computer program; the electronic medium is a Compact Disk. Erturk et al. further teaches the database is a searchable database viewable via a computer program and compact disks are used to store databases of information – col. 8, lines 8-25. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shelton et al.'s teaching with Erturk et al.'s teaching in order to allow the distribution of tradeshow information on CD-ROMs to allow users with different computer systems to access to tradeshow's information.

As per claims 3, 13, Shelton et al. teach wherein the step of collecting the information comprises uploading the information onto a web site – fig. 1a: enter site; col. 3, lines 28-35.

As per claim 19, Shelton et al. teach uploading the information onto a web site – figs. 1a-c.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shelton et al. (US 6847940), Erturk et al. (US 6135776), and further in view of DeLorme et al. (USP 5948040).

As per claim 5, Shelton et al., and Erturk et al. do not explicitly teach wherein the computer program is integrated with the database. However, DeLorme et al. teach “Travel Reservation Information and Planning System” – the title. DeLorme et al. teach a computer program is integrated with the database on a CD – col. 10, lines 9-17. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shelton et al.’s teachings, Erturk et al.’s teaching with DeLorme et al.’s teaching in order to allow users to effectively access to information stored on distributed CDs.

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Claims 6-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shelton et al. (US 6847940), Erturk et al. (US 6135776), and further in view of Schnase et al. (USP 6078928).

As per claim 6, Shelton et al. and Erturk do not teach providing a computer at the tradeshow; and allowing the tradeshow attendee to view the information in the database on the computer. Schnase et al. teach providing a computer at the tradeshow; and allowing the tradeshow attendee to view the information in the database on the computer – col. 3, lines 5-67. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shelton et al.'s teachings, Erturk et al.'s teaching with Schnase et al.'s teaching in order to allow users/visitors/attendees to efficiently view desired information related to exhibits.

As per claim 7, Shelton et al. teach wherein the information comprises the at least one exhibitor's product information, web site address, catalogue information, and the exhibitor's location at the tradeshow – col. 3, lines 27-39; col. 5, lines 22-33; figs. 1a-1c: information regarding a specific product or service, convention floor with booths, each booth with an icon of the vendor's name and logo...

As per claim 8, Shelton et al. teach wherein the information is collected prior to the tradeshow and the database is displayed to the tradeshow attendee in a time frame selected from the group consisting of prior to the tradeshow, during the

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tradeshow, and after the tradeshow – col. 8, lines 9-27; fig. 4; col. 10, lines 3-19; col. 32, lines 18-39. (Users can access exhibit's information before the tradeshow, view/buy information during the show, and checked for updated information or view exhibit's information after the tradeshow such as shipping information etc...) Erturk et al. teach: "A CD-ROM 40 is depicted in FIG. 3. It holds the database content 24 and a software program that directs the project. The database content 24 complements the kit activities. Alternatively, the database content could be distributed by other low-cost means, for example magnetic media or over the Internet. The preferred embodiment of the present invention is to distribute the software program and content database via CD-ROM" – col. 8, lines 8-15. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shelton et al.'s teaching with Erturk et al.'s teaching in order to allow tradeshow's information be distributed to clientele/tradeshow attendees at any desired time frame.

(Schnase et al. also teach the database is distributed to the tradeshow attendee in a time frame selected from the group consisting of prior to the tradeshow, during the tradeshow, and after the tradeshow – col. 2, last paragraph; col. 3, line 16 to col. 4, line 17; col. 12, lines 19-45.)

Claims 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shelton et al. (US 6847940), Erturk et al. (US 6135776), and further in view of Thenery (USP 4806743).

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As per claim 14, Shelton et al., and Erturk et al. do not explicitly teach the computer is located in a dedicated kiosk or booth at the tradeshow. However, Thenery teaches “installation for managing the “visistor” resource at a trade show, or fair, or the like” – the title. Thenery teaches “The present invention relates in general to computerized installations for facilitating the exchange of information between serving entities and the people that may come into contact with said entities. The term “serving entity” is used to cover, in particular, exhibitors or the like present at trade shows or other exhibitions or fairs, with the above-mentioned people then being visitors, members of the press, and personalities who may make contact with said exhibitors” – col. 1, lines 5-15. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shelton et al.’s, Erturk et al. ‘s teachings with Thenery’s teaching in order to allow not only off-site but also conveniently on-site accesses to trade-show information.

As per claim 15, Shelton et al. teach wherein the information is collected prior to the tradeshow and the database is displayed to the tradeshow attendee in a time frame selected from the group consisting of prior to the tradeshow, during the tradeshow, and after the tradeshow – col. 8, lines 9-27; fig. 4; col. 10, lines 3-19; col. 32, lines 18-39. (Users can access exhibit’s information before the tradeshow, view/buy information during the show, and checked for updated information or view exhibit’s information after the tradeshow such as shipping information etc...) Erturk et al. teach: “A CD-ROM 40 is depicted in FIG. 3. It

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holds the database content 24 and a software program that directs the project. The database content 24 complements the kit activities. Alternatively, the database content could be distributed by other low-cost means, for example magnetic media or over the Internet. The preferred embodiment of the present invention is to distribute the software program and content database via CD-ROM” – col. 8, lines 8-15. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shelton et al.’s teaching with Erturk et al.’s teaching in order to allow tradeshow’s information be distributed to clienteles/tradeshow attendees either via Internet web pages or CDs at any desired time frame.

Claims 4, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shelton et al. (US 6847940), in view of Erturk et al. (US 6135776), and further in view of Hunter et al. (USP 6850901).

As per claims 4, 17, Shelton and Erturk et al. do not teach uploading the information onto a wireless network. Hunter et al. teach system and method permitting customers to order products from multiple participating merchants – the title; trade shows and conventions, obtain information and products from the exhibitors, mailed to the attendees prior to the trade show or convention along with other materials such as exhibitor lists, speaker lists, schedules...- col. 11, line 63 to col. 12, line 39; the term “products” is deemed to include both goods and services offered by participating merchants to customers – col. 20, lines 50-

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49; uploading the information onto a wireless network – col. 18, lines 25-60; col. 13, lines 54-67. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shelton and Erturk et al.'s teachings with Hunter et al.'s teaching in order to allow information to be distributed on different types of networks to users.

Claims 9-11, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shelton et al. (US 6847940), in view of Hunter et al. (USP 6850901).

As per claims 9-10, 16, Shelton et al. teach wherein the database is a searchable database viewable via a computer program – fig. 1a-c where information is displayed on web site and users/attendees can further click/search on specific categories: commerce rooms, information regarding a specific product or service etc.... However, Shelton does not teach the electronic medium is a PDA card; viewing the information on a PDA. Hunter et al. teach system and method permitting customers to order products from multiple participating merchants – the title; trade shows and conventions, obtain information and products from the exhibitors, mailed to the attendees prior to the trade show or convention along with other materials such as exhibitor lists, speaker lists, schedules...- col. 11, line 63 to col. 12, line 39; the term “products” is deemed to include both goods and services offered by participating merchants to customers

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– col. 20, lines 50-49; the electronic medium is a PDA card; viewing the information on a PDA – col. 10, lines 10-30; col. 18, lines 25-60. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shelton et al.'s teaching with Hunter et al.'s teaching in order to allow information to be distributed on different types of network devices to users.

As per claim 11, Shelton et al. teach wherein the information is collected prior to the tradeshow and the database is displayed to the tradeshow attendee in a time frame selected from the group consisting of prior to the tradeshow, during the tradeshow, and after the tradeshow – col. 8, lines 9-27; fig. 4; col. 10, lines 3-19; col. 32, lines 18-39. (Users can access exhibit's information before the tradeshow, view/buy information during the show, and checked for updated information or view exhibit's information after the tradeshow such as shipping information etc...)

Claims 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shelton et al. (US 6847940), in view of Hunter et al. (USP 6850901), and further in view of Kleinrock et al. (USP 5936542).

As per claim 20, Shelton et al. teach personal computer – the abstract. Shelton et al. do not teach uploading the information onto a wireless network and PDAs. Hunter et al. teach the electronic medium is a PDA card; viewing the information on a PDA – col. 10, lines 10-30; col. 18, lines 25-60. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine

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Shelton et al.'s teaching with Hunter et al.'s teaching in order to allow information to be distributed on different types of network devices to users. However,

Shelton and Hunter et al. do not teach notebook and palmtop computers.

Kleinrock et al. teach convention id badge system – the title; fig. 4, laptop or PC and user's hand held device; col. 5, lines 27-34. Thus, it would have been

obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine

Shelton et al.'s teaching with Hunter and Kleinrock et al.'s teachings in order to

allow information to be distributed on different types of network devices to users.

As of claim 21, Shelton et al. teach wherein the database is viewable via a computer program – figs. 1a-c wherein users/attendees can click on categories or icons on the web site to search for further information stored in the database.

As per claim 22, Shelton and Hunter et al. do not teach the electronic medium is located at the tradeshow. However, Kleinrock et al. teach: "The attendee is given a portable badge that can be written to and read by a computer type device. Our current manifestation of this is a floppy disk as used for personal computers...

col. 1, lines 29-41; col. 10, lines 5-57. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Shelton and Hunter et al.'s teachings with Kleinrock et al.'s teaching in order to allow not only off-site but also conveniently on-site accesses to trade-show information.

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Claims 1-3, 6-8, 11-15, 18-19 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schnase et al. (USP 6078928), in view of Erturk et al. (US 6135776).

As per independent claims 1, 12, 18, Schnase et al. teach collection of information from retailers, products and/or services related to such sites, exhibits, and items on the display – col. 3, lines 16-67(printing out the information on paper, a disk, or other medium), col. 10, last paragraph to col. 11, line 25; compiling the collected information into a searchable electronic database and distributing the database in an electronic medium to a tradeshow attendee – col. 3, line 39 to col. 4, line 36 (users are allowed to select a particular exhibit of interest and for recording an index relating to the selection in the interest profile on the portable information storage device assigned to that particular visitor (or group of visitors); col. 6, lines 9-29 (the index of content database which generally may include information developed or gathered by the particular institution, information licensed from third parties, ..., information regarding products or services for sale by the institution, and possibly information from others, such as retailers, offering information, products and/or services related to the exhibits on display); gather and compiling a database – col. 2, lines 32-39; col. 4, lines 4-17; col. 8, line 57 to col. 9, line 11 (one or more content databases 9 may be stored apart from the information kiosk 3...they may also be distributed among several networked computing devices. For examples, an institution may have a number of devices having user interaction devices including touch screen display and a card terminal...Thus, trade show attendees or users can access

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the distributed database 9 stored on the storage medium of a particular computing device). Schnase et al. do not disclose, “to a tradeshow attendee”. Erturk et al. teach “hand-on kit interactive software learning system” – the title. Erturk et al. teach: “A CD-ROM 40 is depicted in FIG. 3. It holds the database content 24 and a software program that directs the project. The database content 24 complements the kit activities. Alternatively, the database content could be distributed by other low-cost means, for example magnetic media or over the Internet. The preferred embodiment of the present invention is to distribute the software program and content database via CD-ROM” – col. 8, lines 8-15; Erturk also teach “the software delivers the necessary instructions and information for the user to successfully grow the seeds in the kit, access related facts, and input and compile observations and measurements during the learning process” – col. 6, lines 5-14. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Schnase et al.’s teaching with Erturk et al.’s teaching in order to allow different methods of tradeshow information be distributed to more clienteles/tradeshow attendees.

As per claim 2, Schnase et al. teach wherein the database is a searchable database viewable via a computer program – col. 10, last paragraph to col. 11, line 25; col. 3, lines 43-67 (printing out the information on paper, a disk, or other medium). Schnase et al. do not teach the electronic medium is a Compact Disk. Erturk et al. further teaches the database is a searchable database viewable via a computer program and compact disks are used to store databases of

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information – col. 8, lines 8-25. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Schnase et al.'s teaching with Erturk et al.'s teaching in order to allow the distribution of tradeshow information on CD-ROMs to allow users with different computer systems to access to tradeshow's information.

As per claims 3, 13, and 19, Schnase et al. teach wherein the step of collecting the information comprises uploading the information onto a web site - col. 3, lines 43-67 (printing out the information on paper, a disk, or other medium, or developing personalized web pages, or the like...)

As per claim 6, Schnase et al. teach providing a computer at the tradeshow; and allowing the tradeshow attendee to view the information in the database on the computer – col. 3, lines 5-67.

As per claim 7, Schnase et al. teach wherein the information comprises the at least one exhibitor's product information, web site address, catalogue information, and the exhibitor's location at the tradeshow – col. 3, lines 5-23 (exhibit location or item on the display); col. 13, lines 37 (URLs); col. 4, lines 4-50 (catalog information).

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As per claim 8, Schnase et al. teach wherein the information is collected prior to the tradeshow – col. 3, lines 16-25; the database is distributed to the tradeshow attendee in a time frame selected from the group consisting of prior to the tradeshow, during the tradeshow, and after the tradeshow – col. 2, last paragraph; col. 3, line 16 to col. 4, line 17; col. 12, lines 19-45.

As per claim 14, Schnase et al. teach wherein the database is viewable via a computer program – col. 10, last paragraph to col. 11, line 25; the computer is located in a dedicated kiosk or booth at the tradeshow – col. 3, line 16-67.

As per claim 15, Schnase et al. teach wherein the information is collected prior to the tradeshow – col. 3, lines 16-25; the database is distributed to the tradeshow attendee in a time frame selected from the group consisting of prior to the tradeshow, during the tradeshow, and after the tradeshow – col. 2, last paragraph; col. 3, line 16 to col. 4, line 17; col. 12, lines 19-45.

Claims 4, 9-10, 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schnase et al. (USP 6078928), in view of Erturk et al. (US 6135776), and further in view of Hunter et al. (USP 6850901).

As per claims 4, 17, Schnase and Erturk et al. do not teach uploading the information onto a wireless network. Hunter et al. teach system and method permitting customers to order products from multiple participating merchants –

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the title; trade shows and conventions, obtain information and products from the exhibitors, mailed to the attendees prior to the trade show or convention along with other materials such as exhibitor lists, speaker lists, schedules...- col. 11, line 63 to col. 12, line 39; the term “products” is deemed to include both goods and services offered by participating merchants to customers – col. 20, lines 50-49; uploading the information onto a wireless network – col. 18, lines 25-60; col. 13, lines 54-67. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Schnase and Erturk et al.’s teachings with Hunter et al.’s teaching in order to allow information to be distributed on different types of networks to users.

As per claims 9-10, 16, Schnase and Erturk et al. do not teach the electronic medium is a PDA card; viewing the information on a PDA. Hunter et al. teach system and method permitting customers to order products from multiple participating merchants – the title; trade shows and conventions, obtain information and products from the exhibitors, mailed to the attendees prior to the trade show or convention along with other materials such as exhibitor lists, speaker lists, schedules...- col. 11, line 63 to col. 12, line 39; the term “products” is deemed to include both goods and services offered by participating merchants to customers – col. 20, lines 50-49; the electronic medium is a PDA card; viewing the information on a PDA – col. 10, lines 10-30; col. 18, lines 25-60. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Schnase et al.’s teaching with Hunter and Erturk et al.’s

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teaching in order to allow information to be distributed on different types of networks to users.

As per claim 11, Schnase et al. teach wherein the information is collected prior to the tradeshow – col. 3, lines 16-25; the database is distributed to the tradeshow attendee in a time frame selected from the group consisting of prior to the tradeshow, during the tradeshow, and after the tradeshow – col. 2, last paragraph; col. 3, line 16 to col. 4, line 17; col. 12, lines 19-45.

Claims 20-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schnase et al. (USP 6078928) in view of, Hunter et al. (USP 6850901), and further in view of Kleinrock et al. (USP 5936542).

As per claims 20-22, Schnase et al. teach network and client side computers – col. 12, lines 27-45; wherein the database is a searchable database viewable via a computer program – col. 10, last paragraph to col. 11, line 25; col. 3, lines 43-67 (printing out the information on paper, a disk, or other medium); wherein the electronic medium is located at the tradeshow – fig. 1; col. 8, last paragraph to col. 9, 1st paragraph. Schnase and Erturk et al. do not teach uploading the information onto a wireless network. Hunter et al. teach system and method permitting customers to order products from multiple participating merchants – the title; trade shows and conventions, obtain information and products from the exhibitors, mailed to the attendees prior to the trade show or convention along

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with other materials such as exhibitor lists, speaker lists, schedules...- col. 11, line 63 to col. 12, line 39; the term “products” is deemed to include both goods and services offered by participating merchants to customers – col. 20, lines 50-49; uploading the information onto a wireless network – col. 18, lines 25-60; col. 13, lines 54-67; the electronic medium is a PDA card; viewing the information on a PDA – col. 10, lines 10-30; col. 18, lines 25-60. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Schnase and Erturk et al.’s teachings with Hunter et al.’s teaching in order to allow information to be distributed on different types of network devices to users. However, Schnase, Erturk, and Hunter et al. do not explicitly teach notebook and palmtop computers. Kleinrock et al. teach convention id badge system – the title; fig. 4, laptop or PC and user’s hand held device; col. 5, lines 27-34. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Schnase and Erturk et al.’s teachings with Hunter and Kleinrock et al.’s teachings in order to allow information to be distributed on different types of network devices to users.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schnase et al. (USP 6078928) in view of Erturk et al. (US 6135776), and further in view of DeLorme et al. (USP 5948040).

As per claim 5, Schnase and Erturk et al. do not explicitly teach wherein the computer program is integrated with the database. However, DeLorme et al. teach “Travel Reservation Information and Planning System” – the title.

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DeLorme et al. teach a computer program is integrated with the database on a CD – col. 10, lines 9-17. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Schnase et al.'s teaching with DeLorme et al.'s teaching in order to allow users to effectively access to information stored on distributed CDs.

Response to Arguments

Pekowski et al. (6557007)'s teachings are not applied in this Office Action. New combinations of rejections are presented in this communication. On the response dated 2/8/07, Applicants state that "Shelton teaches away from the present invention – Shelton's database can **never** be distributed to attendees of a tradeshow...In contrast, the subject invention teaches a **public** database system – one that services the public visitors to the tradeshow by including information of products and services of the exhibitors...Instead of a database system for the back office of an exhibitor, the instant invention teaches a public database wherein the **entire** set of information contained in the database can be disseminated **regardless of who the recipient might be...teach against distribution** by emphasizing confidentiality and security of their systems. Moreover, not even the combining reference, Erturk, suggests any kind of database distribution. It merely teaches the use of CD-ROM."

Examiner disagrees that Shelton teaches away from the Applicant's invention. Applicant's independent claims are very broad, basically collecting

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information from at least one exhibitor: at least a product and at least one service, compiling the collected information to a database and distributing the database to a tradeshow attendee (Applicants' figure 1: **Distribute database at tradeshow to attendees Via CD (item 32), Via computer kiosk (item 34), Via Internet or Intranet web page (item 36), and Via PDA (item 38)**). The dependent claims continue, for example, uploading the collected information onto a web site (claim 3), onto a wireless network (claim 4), information can be viewed on a PDA (claim 10) etc...

Shelton et al. teach "It is still another purpose of this invention to foster global commerce between exhibitors and Attendees by providing a platform in which to showcase medical products and services, medical institutions, clinics and facilities in different parts of the world. Via digital technology Attendees to the site can directly see and learn about unique treatment environments, procedures, and personnel in locations far from their home base. (22) It is still another purpose of this invention to virtually detail healthcare products and services, including prescription drugs to healthcare professional Attendees over the Internet." – col. 3, lines 28-39; figs. 1a-1c: web site displaying information regarding a specific product or service, convention floor with booths, each booth with an icon of the vendor's name and logo... The information regarding exhibitors' products and services can be distributed to visitors/users in many ways, uploading on the web site as in the Applicants' claim 3 that also teach by Shelton at figs. 1a-1c or obviously by storing the information in the database on CDs and distributing them to visitors/users.

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Erturk et al explicitly teach: “A CD-ROM 40 is depicted in FIG. 3. It holds the database content 24 and a software program that directs the project. The database content 24 complements the kit activities. Alternatively, the database content could be distributed by other low-cost means, for example magnetic media or over the Internet. The preferred embodiment of the present invention is to distribute the software program and content database via CD-ROM. (13) A computer 42 is depicted in FIG. 4. The software program runs on the computer. The computer 42 accesses the database content 24 from the CD-ROM. The user response file 26 is stored on the hard drive of the computer 42. Alternatively, a dedicated computerized device, such as a hand-held computer that only runs software for the instant hands-on kit interactive software learning system, could also be used.” – col. 8, lines 9-25. Therefore, it is well known in the art that information can be conveyed to users in many different ways: displaying on the web sites, distributing information on CDs etc...

The combination of Shelton's and Erturk's teachings show that not only hand-on kit interactive software can be stored on CDs to distribute to users but also other information can also be stored on CDs and distribute them to users as well, it is a well-known process, nothing novel.

Furthermore, the method does not seem to amount to a contribution or addition to the cumulative wisdom with respect to existing computer file and database

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management. The information is collected and distributed to users/tradeshows attendees using CD-ROMs does not amount to a new and innovative method or process.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 5/19/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., "entire" searchable database, "providing a computer at the tradeshow" on pages 6-7 of the Arguments) are not recited in the rejected independent claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

In response to applicant's argument that there is no suggestion to combine the references, the examiner recognizes that obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. See *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988) and *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). In this case, Applicant amended the independent claims to include that the electronic database is searchable, please see the new combination of applied prior art above. Examiner also carefully checked there

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are motivations to combine in the rejection for each claim that was rejected under the combined prior art.

Regarding the Applicant's argument that Shelton cannot be properly combined with other references that teach physical distribution tools...Examiner disagrees.

As cited in prior Office Action, Applicant's independent claims are very broad, basically collecting information from at least one exhibitor: at least a product and at least one service, compiling the collected information to a database and distributing the database to a tradeshow attendee (Applicants' current application, figure 1 shows **distribute database at tradeshow to attendees via CD (item 32), via computer kiosk (item 34), via Internet or Intranet web page (item 36), and via PDA (item 38)**). The dependent claims continue, for example, uploading the collected information onto a web site (claim 3), onto a wireless network (claim 4), information can be viewed on a PDA (claim 10) etc...

Shelton et al. teach "It is still another purpose of this invention to foster global commerce between exhibitors and Attendees by providing a platform in which to showcase medical products and services, medical institutions, clinics and facilities in different parts of the world. Via digital technology Attendees to the site can directly see and learn about unique treatment environments, procedures, and personnel in locations far from their home base. (22) It is still another purpose of this invention to virtually detail healthcare products and services, including prescription drugs to healthcare

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professional Attendees over the Internet.” – col. 3, lines 28-39; figs. 1a-1c: web site displaying information regarding a specific product or service, convention floor with booths, each booth with an icon of the vendor’s name and logo... The information regarding exhibitors’ products and services can be distributed to visitors/users in many ways, uploading on the web site as in the Applicants’ claim 3 that also teach by Shelton at figs. 1a-1c. As Shelton distributes trade shows’ information on web pages on the Internet to users, another method of distributing information to users such as storing the information in the database on CDs and distributing them to visitors/users is also well known in the art. Erturk et al explicitly teach: “A CD-ROM 40 is depicted in FIG. 3. It holds the database content 24 and a software program that directs the project. The database content 24 complements the kit activities. Alternatively, the database content could be distributed by other low-cost means, for example magnetic media or over the Internet. The preferred embodiment of the present invention is to distribute the software program and content database via CD-ROM. (13) A computer 42 is depicted in FIG. 4. The software program runs on the computer. The computer 42 accesses the database content 24 from the CD-ROM. The user response file 26 is stored on the hard drive of the computer 42. Alternatively, a dedicated computerized device, such as a hand-held computer that only runs software for the instant hands-on kit interactive software learning system, could also be used.” – col. 8, lines 9-25. Therefore, it is well known in the art that information can be conveyed to users in many different ways: displaying on the web sites, distributing information on CDs etc...Thus,

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examiner disagrees with Applicant's statement that tradeshow information cannot be distributed in different ways to users.

The combination of Shelton's and Erturk's teachings show that not only hand-on kit interactive software can be stored on CDs to distribute to users but also other information can also be stored on CDs and distribute them to users as well, it is a well-known process.

Regarding the Applicant argument on page 7 that Shelton teaches "prescreened attendees" whereas the current application requires "any inquiring attendee".

Examiner interprets "any inquiring attendee" equivalent to its broadest reasonable interpretation as "an attendee" because the limitation "any inquiring attendee" does not itself exclude even a "prescreened attendee".

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory

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action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LINH BLACK whose telephone number is 571-272-4106. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Wilson Lee/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2163

LINH BLACK
Examiner
Art Unit 2163